

## Message Text

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14

ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AGR-10 AID-05 EB-07 EUR-12 COME-00 ISO-00

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DRAFTED BY IO/AGR:PJBYRNES:DKS

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AID/PPC:MSCHUWEILER (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS STATE 241138

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, OCON

SUBJECT: 18TH FAO CONFERENCE

1. C 75/12, "ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 18TH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE," CONTAINS TENTATIVE TIMETABLE WHICH PROPOSES COMMISSION II OF CONFERENCE DISCUSS PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET, 1976-77 (CONFERENCE ITEM 12), AS FIRST ITEM OF COMMISSION'S WORK. THIS WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY ITEM 13, "REVIEW OF FIELD PROGRAMS, INCLUDING FAO/UNDP COOPERATION," AND ITEM 14, "MEDIUM TERM OBJECTIVES." THIS TENTATIVE ORDER WAS EARLIER RECOMMENDED BY PROGRAM COMMITTEE AND ACCEPTED BY COUNCIL.

2. QUESTION HAS BEEN RAISED WHETHER MORE EFFECTIVE DEBATE ON ALL ITEMS COULD BE OBTAINED BY DISCUSSING ITEM 13, WHICH IS OVERVIEW OF ORGANIZATION'S FIELD WORK IN 1974-75, BEFORE PROCEEDING TO DEBATE WHAT FAO SHOULD DO IN REGULAR PROGRAM IN 1976-77 AND FUTURE YEARS, I.E., ITEMS 12 AND 14. REGULAR PROGRAM NOT ONLY BACKSTOPS FIELD ACTIVITIES BUT  
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INCREASINGLY IS PROVIDING FUNDS FOR FIELD PROGRAMS AND,

AS PART OF FAO'S DECENTRALIZATION PROCESS, WILL CONTAIN  
LARGE BUDGETARY INCREASES FOR REGIONAL OFFICES IN FORTH-  
COMING BIENNIUM.

3. DURING RECENT VISIT WASHINGTON, ADG WEST AGREED  
DISCUSSING FIELD PROGRAMS FIRST WAS REASONABLE AND  
LIKELY BE MORE PRODUCTIVE. WEST SAID HE THOUGHT IT  
WOULD POSE NO PROBLEM FOR HIM OR OTHER SECRETARIAT STAFF  
BUT SUGGESTED DE CAPRONA (OGI) BE APPROACHED SOON AS  
POSSIBLE.

4. FODAG REQUESTED DISCUSS MATTER WITH DE CAPRONA,  
AND PERHAPS WEST, TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY FEEL A U.S.  
PROPOSAL MIGHT TRIGGER OTHER SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANGE.  
WE HAVE HEARD, FOR INSTANCE, THAT MALAYSIA WISHED RE-  
SCHEDULING IN ORDER ALLOW MORE TIME TO PREPARE FOR  
DISCUSSION ITEM 16.1 "REVIEW OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF  
THE SPECIAL SESSION." WE WILL NOT PRESS FOR A CHANGE IF  
FAO HAS SERIOUS CONCERN OVER OPENING PANDORA'S BOX.

5. INQUIRE ALSO WHETHER ANY THOUGHT BEING GIVEN TO  
ADVANCING DATE FOR DISCUSSION ITEM 11 IN COMMISSION I.  
QUESTION WHETHER IT IS ADVISABLE HAVE THIS IMPORTANT  
ISSUE AS FINAL ITEM FOR DISCUSSION IN COMMISSION WHICH  
HANDLES FAO'S POLICY DISCUSSIONS. KISSINGER

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